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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Jordan  
SUBJECT The Progressive Circassian League

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the members of the Progressive Circassian League (Al-Ussat al-Taqaddumiyah al-Sharkasiyyah) in 'Amman are increasing their activities as a result of the current political situation and are holding frequent meetings at the home of a certain Nuri Bakir.

2. The following individuals are members of the Progressive Circassian League in 'Amman:

a. 'Izz-al-Din Bakir - Circassian born in 'Amman; thirty years of age. Bakir studied at al-Ahzar University in Cairo, where he changed his name to Nawras Bahir "for political reasons." In Egypt Bakir was a close friend of 'Abd-al-Rahman Sultanov of the Soviet Legation. Bakir was a teacher at Husayn College in 'Amman but was dismissed because of cruelty to students. He is now employed in the Statistics Department of the Ministry of Finance in 'Amman, is a close friend of 'Abd-al-Rahman Kurdi (an official in the Jordanian Ministry of Finance), and is one of the strongest supporters of the Soviet Union in 'Amman.

b. Munir 'Umar Balqar - born in 'Amman; twenty-seven years of age; has an intermediary education. He was formerly employed as a clerk in the Arab Legion and is now employed in the post office in 'Amman. He works actively for the Progressive Circassian League by propagandizing for it among Circassian youths.

c. Zuhayr Mufti - born in 'Amman; thirty-two years of age. He studied in Jordan and completed his education at the American University of Beirut, Lebanon, where he received a B.A. degree in political economy. Previously he was employed as a translator, class six, in the Jordanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and at present is a Secretary at the Jordanian Legation in Washington, D.C. Mufti is a Communist and maintains contact with the Communist Party of the United States. He and his family are among the Circassian leaders in Jordan.

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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- d. Ishaq 'Ali Rida - Circassian born in 'Amman; thirty-five years of age. Rida began his studies in 'Amman and completed them at the American University of Beirut, where he studied engineering and graduated in 1946. In 1946 he was elected Secretary of the Circassian Sports Club in 'Amman. In 1947 he came to the United States, where he completed his engineering studies. In 1949 he returned to 'Amman and has been working as an engineer in the 'Amman municipality. [REDACTED] 25X1X  
Rida is a member of the Communist Party of the United States.
- e. Yusuf Yugas - Circassian lawyer from Jalan, Syria; thirty-three years of age. He is a graduate of the Damascus Law School. [REDACTED] 25X1X he is the liaison agent between the Circassians of Syria and those of Jordan. He is considered to be the "intellect" of the Progressive Circassian League and is one of the strongest advocates for the return of the Circassians to the Republic of Daghestan. Yugas spreads pro-Soviet propaganda in the Circassian language among Circassians in Jordan and Syria and is one of the bitterest opponents of Western policy. He maintains contact with the Soviet Legation in Damascus.
- f. Badr-al-Din Yusuf - Circassian born in 'Amman; thirty-five years of age. Yusuf graduated from the Mutran School in 'Amman and has been a teacher and then a clerk in the Iraq Petroleum Company, where he tried to establish a labor union. He is an extreme leftist, according to informant.

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